III. CITY OF SANTA BARBARA 2007 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

Proposed revisions: February 27, 2007

REVENUE AND TAXATION		
ALLIANCES STATEWIDE INITIATIVE	Finance	Support the use of the statewide initiative process as necessary to secure fiscal independence and a sound intergovernmental financial structure for cities, that incorporate the following principles:
		 Greater share of the property tax and other reliable, discretionary revenues in order to finance local services.
		 Constitutional protection of local revenue sources to ensure against diversion by the state for non-municipal purposes.
		 Major reforms in the un-funded mandate reimbursement process to make the process more workable and meaningful.
CABLE TELEVISION – ACCESS AND REVENUES	Finance	Support the ability of cities to retain public, educational and government access channels, institutional networks and <u>franchise</u> revenues from cable television <u>and other video</u> providers.

TRANSPORTATION, PUBLIC WORKS and COMMUNICATIONS		
TRANSPORTATION	Public	Support funding projects on their merit in accordance with identified criteria.
	Works	Support the adoption and implementation of a long-term capital investment plan and budget to upgrade and repair vital infrastructure.
		Support maximizing investments in infrastructure and reinforce local land use practices to accomplish strategic local growth objectives such as compact land development patterns, revitalizing urban cores, transit-oriented development and preservation of open space.
		Support leveraging state investments to fund affordable housing and critical local and regional infrastructure projects to accomplish regional priorities.
		Support enhanced autonomy for local transportation decision-making and pursue transportation policy changes that move more funding and decisions-making to local policy leaders or fund urban infrastructure needs.

<u>AIRPORT</u>		
FUNDING	Airport	Support legislation reauthorizing FAA and the Airport Improvement Program (AIP), including
• DBE	-	support of the following provisions:
		 Increase AIP funding especially for smaller airports.
	Airport	 Maintain the 5% AIP match for small airports.

Proposed revisions: January 22, 2007

		 Strengthen or maintain budget protections for AIP funding. Eliminate the competition plan requirement for AIP. Eliminate unnecessary AIP grant assurances. Continuation of the Small Community Air Service Grant Program.
		Support federal legislative efforts to maintain or increase appropriations to the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) for infrastructure projects relating to safety, security, aviation operations and capacity, and noise abatement.
		Support dedicated aviation security operations and infrastructure funding sources separate from the Airport Improvement Program (AIP).
		Support efforts to reimburse airports for the costs associated with implementation of federal security and other mandates, including security.
		Support reclassification of all airport bonds as 'governmental' instead of 'private activity.' and Support efforts to allow advance refund of airport bond debt.
		Support efforts to provide airports with greater flexibility in the use of AIP and Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) funds, including elimination of the mandated loss of entitlement funds from imposing a higher PFC.
		Support increased flexibility for airports by expanding the allowable uses of AIP funds and passenger facility charge revenues.
		Support an increase or elimination of the cap on PFC charges.
		Support efforts to streamline the airport PFC application and reporting process.
		Support equitable distribution of jet fuel tax revenues.
		Support and advocate efforts to restructure the Airport Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program.
SECURITY	Airport	Support a threat based (risk-based) system of air cargo inspection and screening rather than a universal program.
ENVIRONMENT	Airport	Support additional steps to expedite the airport environmental review and approval process while preserving environmental protections.
RENTAL CAR CONCESSIONS	Airport	Support airport interests in proposed legislation that may impact the terms under which rental car concessions operate at the Airport.

WATERFRONT		
ENVIRONMENTAL	Waterfront	General.
	Waterfront	Support enhanced local authority over disposition of wrecked, derelict, abandoned, non-operable navigable or non-seaworthy craft.

		Support physical alternatives or grant funds for disposal of marina-generated household wastes, dredge materials or treated building materials. Water Pollution.
		Support efforts to fund recycling and/or disposal options for waste oil and other byproducts of maritime activities or vessel maintenance.
LOCAL CONTROL	Waterfront	Support the preservation of ocean resources through established marine sanctuaries, while reserving the ability to comment on potential sanctuary expansion into the Harbor District that could affect activities including but not limited to dredging, vessel traffic, wastewater disposal, general construction and maintenance and repair.

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS		
EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY	City Administrator	Support legislation furthering the purpose and clarifying the application of state and federal civil rights and equal employment opportunity laws. Support a consistent standard for hostile sexual harassment cases by adopting the federal "reasonable victim" standards in matters before the FEHC. Support changing the standard from the "viewpoint of a reasonable victim" to a standard utilizing the "perception of reasonable persons of the same gender as the claimant," in order to shift from a gender-based sexual harassment standard to a plaintiff-based standard. Support efforts to conform the California Family Care Leave Laws to the federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA). Support the amendment of federal civil rights legislation to prohibit employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM	Administrative Services Administrative Services	Support extending the period for which employees may purchase PERS service credit for periods of lay off to 5 years. Support legislation to allow a PERS contracting agency to voluntarily elect to amend its PERS contract to provide safety retirement benefits to CA peace officers serving as armed Airport Patrol Officers. Oppose a requirement that all plan assets of an employer plan, including "excess assets" be used in the determination of the employer rate. Support allowing local agencies to make an exclusive determination of whether to utilize excess assets to offset costs of plan amendments.
OTHER EMPLOYMENT- RELATED ISSUES	Administrative Services	Support a consistent standard for hostile sexual harassment cases by adopting the federal

<u>CFRACLL</u> /FMLA		"reasonable victim" standards in matters before the FEHC. Support changing the standard from the "viewpoint of a reasonable victim" to a standard utilizing the "perception of reasonable persons of the same gender as the claimant," in order to shift from a gender-based sexual harassment standard to a plaintiff-based standard.
		Support efforts to conform the California Family Care Leave Laws to the federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).
		Support federal and state legislation affirming the establishment of tax exempt employee savings accounts for retirement health expenses.
		Support state-funded recruitment and succession planning programs to address expected high levels of employee retirement turnover within state and local government service.
		Oppose legislation limiting the ability of public agencies to monitor public employees' use of public assets and resources.
DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP	Administrative Services	Support legislation that would delete the current state criteria that persons in a Domestic Partnership must be members of the same sex or be over 62 years of age.

END OF LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM